MASKED RAIDER
A CHARLTON PUBLICATION
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MASKED RAIDER
No 8
presents
THE BILLY KID
10¢
WESTERN OUTLAW
GIORDANO
BILLY THE KID,
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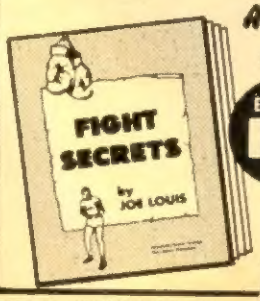

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MASKED RAIDER Volume 1, Number 8 JULY, 1957

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Alfred V. Fago Executive Editor

BILLY THE KID

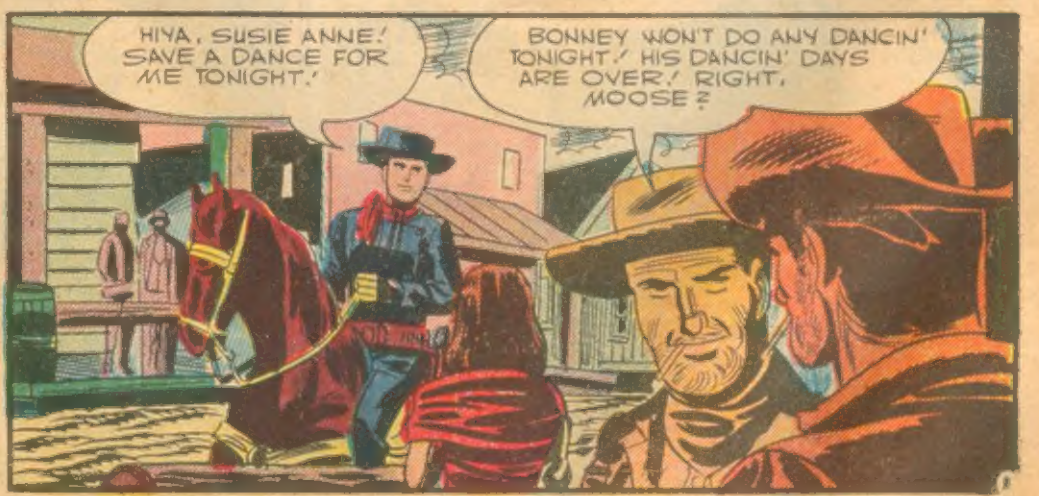
YOUNG BILL BONNEY HAD ONLY HAPPY THOUGHTS IN HIS HEAD THAT DAY WHEN HE RODE INTO ROCK SPRINGS! THERE WAS A DANCE THAT NIGHT AND HE HAD A MONTH'S PAY IN HIS POCKET! THEN, WHEN HE LOOKED UP AND SAW THE RED GLOW OF HATE IN CRESS STANHOPE'S EYES, HE KNEW HE WOULDN'T DANCE THAT NIGHT! FOR CRESS STANHOPE WAS A...

SWORN ENEMY!

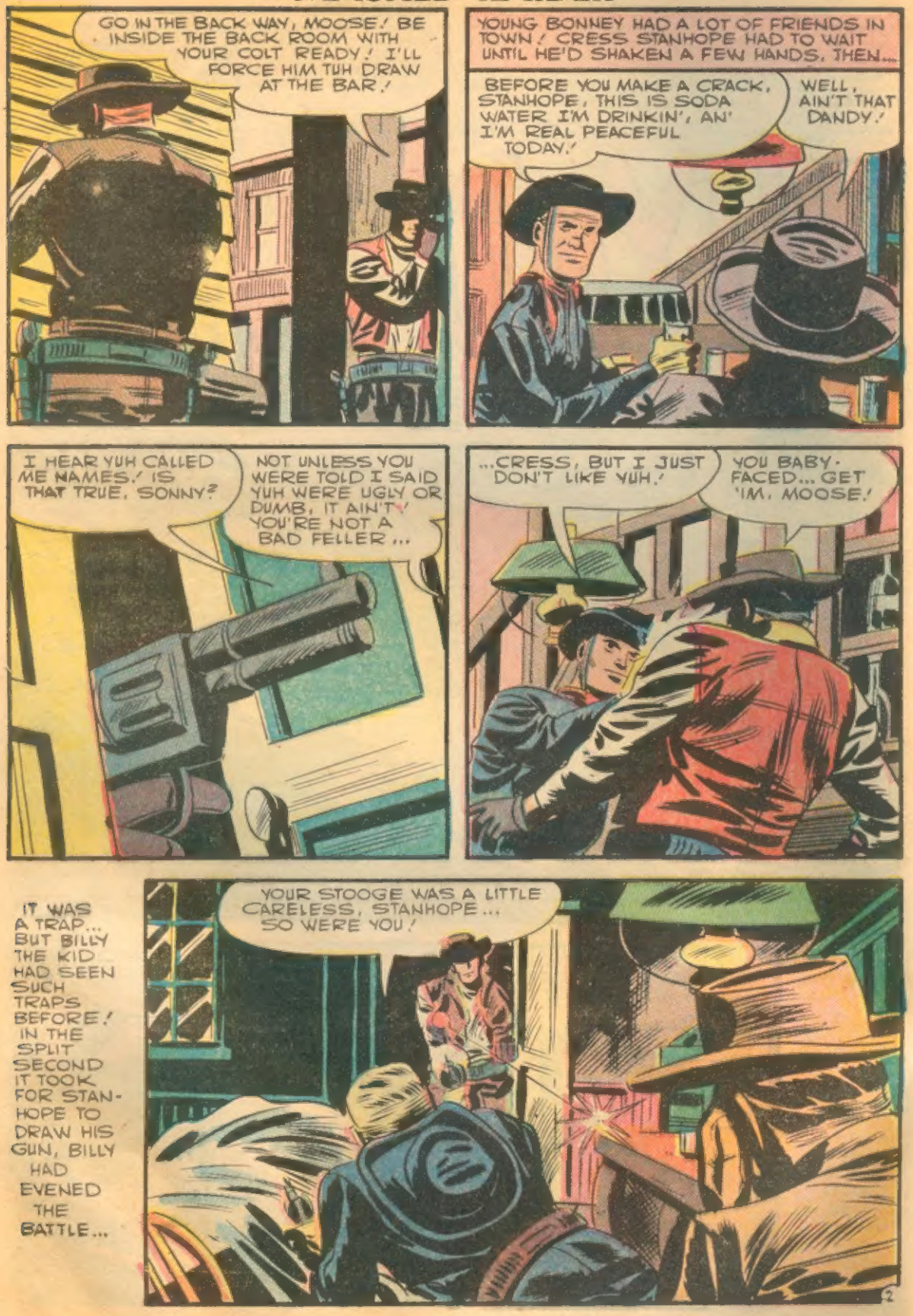
I SWORE I'D GET YUH, BONNEY, AND I WILL! YUH WON'T RIDE AWAY THIS TIME!
I'M STILL ALIVE, STANHOPE! IF THIS CRITTER WASN'T GUN-SHY, I'D SHOOT A LOT BETTER!

S1844

BONNEY -- BILLY THE KID -- WAS LIKE ANY OTHER TWENTY YEAR OLD KID THAT DAY! HE HAD SOME MONEY AND HE WAS OUT FOR A GOOD TIME...



MASKED RAIDER

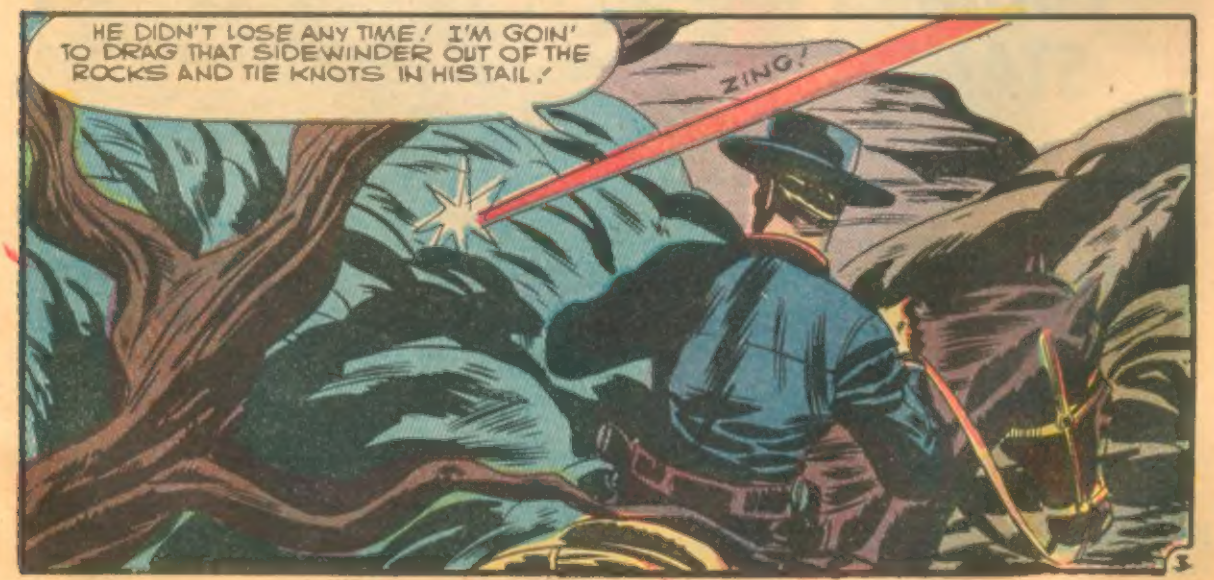

GO IN THE BACK WAY, MOOSE! BE INSIDE THE BACK ROOM WITH YOUR COLT READY! I'LL FORCE HIM TUH DRAW AT THE BAR!
YOUNG BONNEY HAD A LOT OF FRIENDS IN TOWN! CRESS STANHOPE HAD TO WAIT UNTIL HE'D SHAKEN A FEW HANDS, THEN...
BEFORE YOU MAKE A CRACK, STANHOPE, THIS IS SODA WATER I'M DRINKIN', AN' I'M REAL PEACEFUL TODAY.'
WELL, AIN'T THAT DANDY.'
I HEAR YUH CALLED ME NAMES.' IS THAT TRUE, SONNY?
NOT UNLESS YOU WERE TOLD I SAID YUH WERE UGLY OR DUMB, IT AIN'T. YOU'RE NOT A BAD FELLER...
...CRESS, BUT I JUST DON'T LIKE YUH.'
YOU BABY-FACED... GET 'IM, MOOSE!
IT WAS A TRAP... BUT BILLY THE KID HAD SEEN SUCH TRAPS BEFORE! IN THE SPLIT SECOND IT TOOK FOR STAN-HOPE TO DRAW HIS GUN, BILLY HAD EVENED THE BATTLE...
YOUR STOOGE WAS A LITTLE CARELESS, STANHOPE... SO WERE YOU!
2

MASKED RAIDER

NEITHER MAN WAS FATALLY INJURED! BUT BILLY THE KID HAD FIXED CRESS STANHOPE SO HE'D NEVER DRAW AGAIN...
YUH RUINED ME, BONNEY -- BUT MY BROTHER LAFE WILL GET YUH.!
YEAH -- HE'LL SEND A DOZEN OF HIS HIRED GUNMEN AND RUSTLERS AFTER ME! GO ON, GET OUT.!

WHERE YUH GOIN' CURLY? WE'RE GOIN' TO THE DANCE LIKE WE PLANNED, AREN'T WE?
I WON'T LIE, BILLY! I JUST CAN'T AFFORD TUH BE SEEN WITH YUH.! LAFE STANHOPE WON'T BE FOOLIN' WHEN HE COMES AFTER YUH.!

EVERYONE IN TOWN GAVE THE BOYISH COWBOY PLENTY OF ROOM.! THEY KNEW LAFE STANHOPE WOULD SMASH HIM AND ANYONE WHO STOOD WITH HIM...
I HEARD WHAT HAPPENED, BILLY.! IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT.! WHY ARE THEY SO AFRAID OF LAFE STANHOPE? HIS RIDERS AREN'T BAD!
HIS REGULAR CREW IS ALL RIGHT, SUSIE ANNE -- BUT HE HAS A BUNCH OF OWL-HOOTERS WHO WORK FOR HIM AFTER DARK.! I'D BETTER LEAVE TOWN.!



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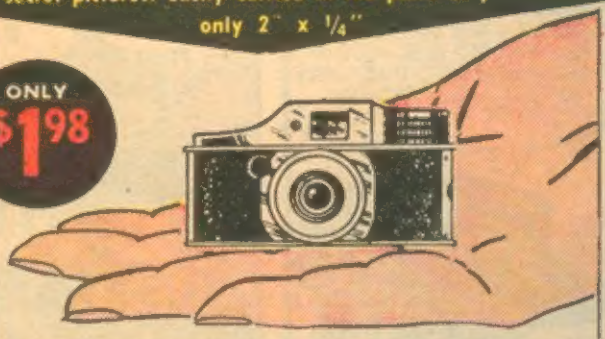

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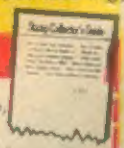

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MASKED RAIDER

THE GUNMAN WAS WELL CONCEALED IN A NEST OF ROCKS.' HE PUMPED A FRESH SHELL INTO HIS WINCHESTER, EXPECTING BONNEY TO FIND COVER...

BILLY THE KID HAD HUNDREDS OF FRIENDS EAGER TO HELP-- BUT HE WOULDN'T ENDANGER THEM BY ACCEPTING IT...

THIS AIN'T MUCH LIKE THE DANCE I EXPECTED, HOSS.' WHY CAN'T THEY LET ME ALONE? I HAD NO QUARREL WITH CRESS STANHOPE.' TROUBLE JUST SEEMS TO FOLLOW ME.'

MASKED RAIDER

THE KID HAD SHOT AT A RIFLE FLASH IN THE DARK... BUT HE KNEW HE HADN'T MISSED...
ANOTHER ONE OF STANHOPE'S HEADHUNTERS!
BILLY SLEPT IN COLD BLANKETS AND WENT WITHOUT BREAKFAST! HE WAS FED UP WITH BEING HUNTED.
THERE'S A LOT OF RIDERS LEAVIN' DOWN THERE! LAFE IS PROBABLY COMBIN' THE WOODS FOR ME! I'LL SAVE A LOT OF TROUBLE JUST RIDIN' DOWN THERE!
DON'T FAINT, COOKIE! YOUR BOSS IS INSIDE, ISN'T HE?
Y-YEAH! LOOK, I'M JUST THE COOK! I DON'T WANT TROUBLE!
GET BONNEY IF YOU HAVE TO USE EVERY OUTLAW IN THE SOUTHWEST! HE RUINED CRESS'S HAND! HE'LL GET ME IF HE CAN!
WATCH IT, BOSS! IT'S BONNEY!
HOLD IT, TATE! WHY ARE YOU HERE, BABY-FACE? WHAT'S THE GAG?
I WANT TO ASK YOU TO CALL OFF YOUR HOUNDS! CRESS JUMPED ME, I DIDN'T JUMP HIM!
BEGGIN' WON'T HELP, BONNEY! I'VE GOT YUH NOW! OKAY, TATE!

MASKED RAIDER

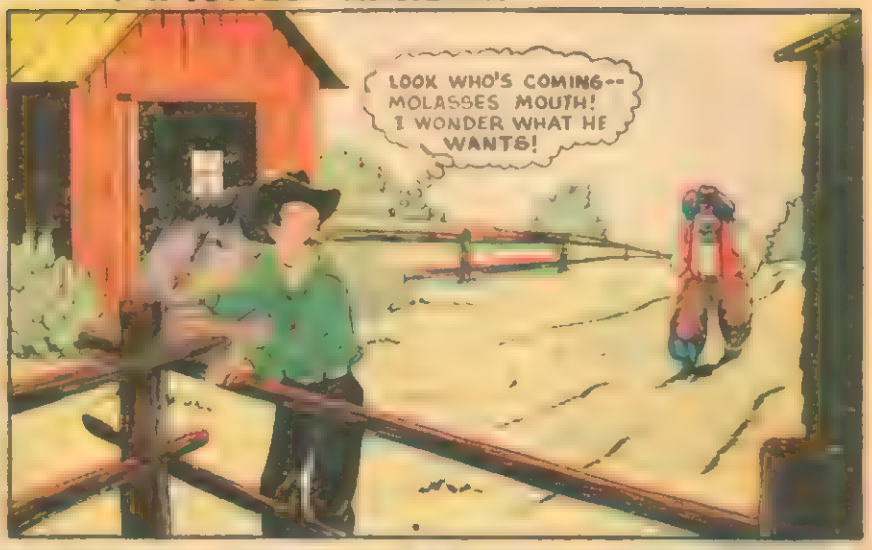
YOUNG BONNEY WAS IN THE SADDLE BEFORE STANHOPE'S OUTLAWS KNEW WHAT HAPPENED! HIS HORSE WAS FAST BUT HE DIDN'T GAIN GROUND ON HIS PURSUERS...

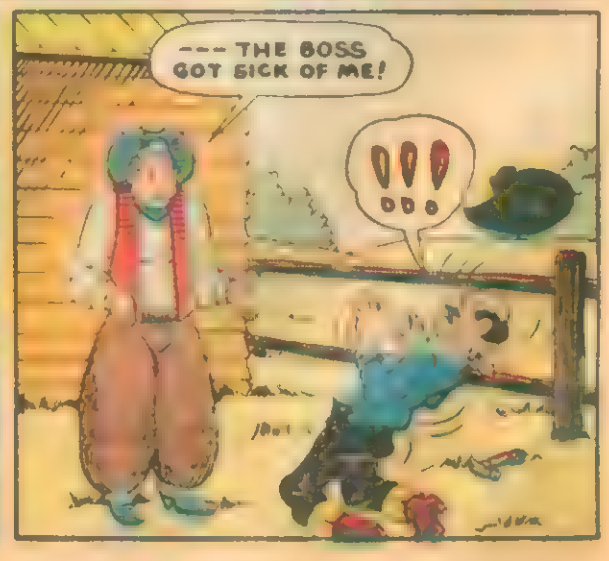
MASKED RAIDER

RUNNING WASN'T EASY IN RIDING BOOTS BUT YOUNG BONNEY LEAPED AND SKIDDED DOWN TO THE CANYON ENTRANCE! HE MADE IT JUST IN TIME...
GET BACK IN THERE, BUSTER!
WE'LL RUSH HIM! YOU MEN RIDE...
NOT ME, BOSS! I'D RATHER SET UP HOUSEKEEPIN' IN A GRIZZLY CAVE THAN FACE THAT KID!
PING!
I KNOW IT'S A TRICK BUT I'LL RUIN THE HAT ANYWAY! STANHOPE'S WOLVES SURE AIN'T HOWLIN' LOUD TODAY! I HOPE THE SHERIFF GETS CURIOUS PRETTY SOON!
YOUNG BONNEY HELD STANHOPE'S CREW AT BAY FOR TWO HOURS... THEN THE SHERIFF AND TWO DEPUTIES RODE UP...
DID YOU FIND THE RUSTLED BEEF, SHERIFF? STANHOPE HAD A HERD READY TUH MOVE WHEN HE STARTED THIS WAR WITH ME...
YEAH, WE FOUND IT! I'D TAKE HIM AND HIS CREW IF I COULD!
STANHOPE AND HIS CREW GAVE UP WHEN THE SHERIFF IDENTIFIED HIMSELF! BILLY'S RAKING FIRE HAD HURT MORE THAN HE KNEW...
I'LL GET YOU, BONNEY! WAIT AND SEE!
THAT'LL BE A LONG TIME FROM NOW, STANHOPE! WE'VE FINALLY GOT THE GOODS ON YOU!
BILLY THE KID HAD MORE GOOD NEWS WHEN HE REACHED TOWN! THE DANCE HAD BEEN POSTPONED... AND HE GOT THERE IN TIME...
WHY, BILLY BONNEY -- YOU'RE BLUSHING!
I'M JUST A SHY LITTLE KID!
END

MOLASSES MOUTH

ILL HEALTH

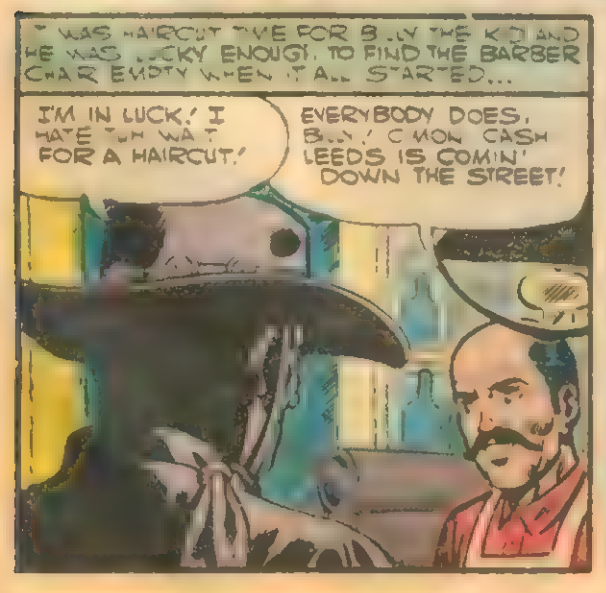




MASKED RAIDER in the TROUBLE TWINS

BILLY THE KID

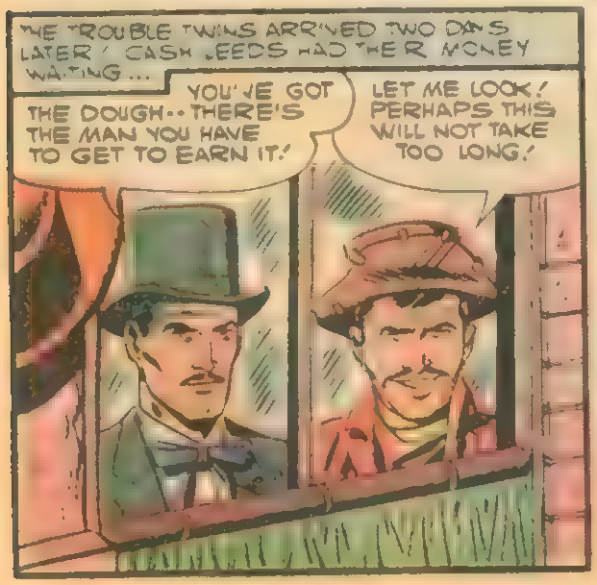
THEY CALLED SAM AND FLASH BORIOS THE TROUBLE TWINS AND THE SLIM DEADLY GUNMEN LIVED UP TO THE NAME! THEIR GUNS WERE FOR HIRE AND WHEN CASH LEEDS COULDN'T SMASH BILL BONNEY HIMSELF HE SENT FOR THE FAMED GUNSLINGERS!


IT WAS HAIRCUT TIME FOR BILLY THE KID AND HE WAS LUCKY ENOUGH TO FIND THE BARBER CHAIR EMPTY WHEN IT ALL STARTED...
I'M IN LUCK! I HATE TUH WAIT FOR A HAIRCUT!
EVERYBODY DOES, BILLY! C'MON CASH LEEDS IS COMIN' DOWN THE STREET!

MASKED RAIDER

BUT FORGOT THE INCIDENT AND THE THREAT! BUT CASH LEEDS DIDN'T! A TELEGRAM HE SENT FOUND THE BORIOS BROTHERS THAT SAME NIGHT...

HERMANO NO WE ARE A JOB CASH LEEDS WILL PAY A THOUSAND APIECE TO GET RID OF ONE COWBOY!
ONLY ONE? WE'LL TAKE IT! IT SHOULD BE FINE SPORT ALSO NO?


THE TROUBLE TWINS ARRIVED TWO DAYS LATER! CASH LEEDS HAD THEIR MONEY WAITING...
YOU'VE GOT THE DOUGH -- THERE'S THE MAN YOU HAVE TO GET TO EARN IT!
LET ME LOOK! PERHAPS THIS WILL NOT TAKE TOO LONG!

MASKED RAIDER

YOUNG BONNEY WAS WARNED -- AND HE KNEW TROUBLE WAS COMING ...
SAM AND FLASH BORIOS WENT INTO LEEDS' OFFICE! YUH KNOW WHY HE SENT FOR THEM, DON'T YUH, BILLY?
I KNOW, MARSHAL! THE TROUBLE TWINS WILL BE AFTER ME! WHAT CAN I DO?
YOU SHOULD DRIFT OUT OF THE COUNTRY! THERE'LL BE TROUBLE IF YUH DON'T, AND I CAN'T STOP IT!
WATCH ME FLASH HE THINKS HE CAN CROWD US INTO THE MUD!
I SEE YOU BOYS GOT YOUR ORDERS ALREADY! HOW MUCH DID LEEDS PAY YOU?
WHATEVER IT WAS, YOU WON'T EARN IT NOW! TRY SOME OTHER TOWN BOYS
HE IS FRIGHTENED FLASH BUT THE KID'S AFRAID OF US!
THE ENTIRE TOWN SAW BILL BONNEY BACK DOWN! BUT THEY DON'T KNOW HIS REPUTATION!
I SAW YOU, JOHNNY -- JUST LIKE ME. NOW RUN HOME AND PLAY!
GIVE ME SOMETHIN COLD HARRY!
WHAT'S WRONG BONNEY? LOSE YORE NERVE? YUH ALWAYS WAS A FOUR-FLUSHER!

GIVEN! BOYS! GIRLS! LADIES! MEN! CASH or PREMIUMS

WE GIVE YOU ....

EXTRA! EXTRA! If you mail coupon at once— we'll send you something new [illegible] free of charge. MAIL COUPON BELOW

JIM and BETTY SOLVE THE FLYING SAUCER" MYSTERY!
LOOK BETTY
I'LL BET IT'S A FLYING SAUCER!
LET'S GET OUR TELESCOPE AND BINOCULARS AND SEE!
HEY! THAT LOOKS LIKE AN EARTH SATELLITE!
I CAN SEE IT CLEARLY
FLASH! SCIENTISTS HAVE JUST LAUNCHED THE FIRST EARTH SATELLITE. ANYONE SPOTTING IT PLEASE CALL US AT ONCE!
GOOD WORK BETTY AND JIM! YOU ARE THE FIRST TO SPOT OUR NEW OBSERVATION SATELLITE!
GOSH! HERE ARE BETTY AND JIM'S PICTURES IN TODAY'S PAPER
HOW DID YOU KIDS EVER GET A RADIO, A TELESCOPE AND BINOCULARS?
IT WAS EASY, KIDS - WE EARNED THEM, AND LOTS MORE SWELL PREMIUMS, SELLING WHITE CLOVERINE BRAND SALVE TO OUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS!
SALVE
ACT NOW!
LIVE PONY!
DOZENS OF OTHER
BE THE FIRST
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MASKED RAIDER

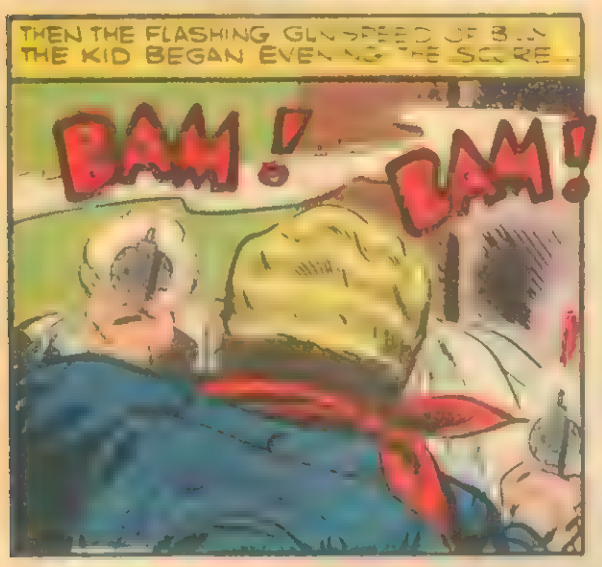
NO, I DON'T LOSE MY NERVE-- BUT YOU'LL SURE LOSE A GOOD COLT IF YUH TRY TUH USE IT ON ME!
THE BLUFF WON'T WORK BONNEY! DRAW!
I'M GETTIN' TIRED OF YOU WOULD-BE FIGHTERS!
HERE, GIVE THIS TO PERKINS WHEN HE'S READY TUH LEAVE TOWN.
ALL RIGHT BILLY! PERKINS WAS WAITIN' FOR A CHANCE TO GET YUH.
THE TROUBLE THAT FOLLOWED BLUN THE KID INTO THE BAR. ONCE MORE THEY TRIED TO FORCE A FIGHT..
YOU ARE A COWARD BLUN. WE'LL RUN YOU OUT OF THIS COUNTRY!
WAIT, BORIOS! DON'T START TROUBLE HERE!
YOU BACK DOWN AGAIN, EH, BONNEY? LOOK, I SPILL YOUR DRINK!
OLD JETHROE KYLE IS IN THE LINE OF FIRE! HE'D GET HURT IF I DREW A GUN
HE TRIED ADE ANG HAND N THE POKER GAME! BUT IT DON'T WORK...
GET UP, COWBOY! I WILL TAKE YOUR PLACE! BONNEY IS A FRIEND, AREN'T YOU, BABYFACE?

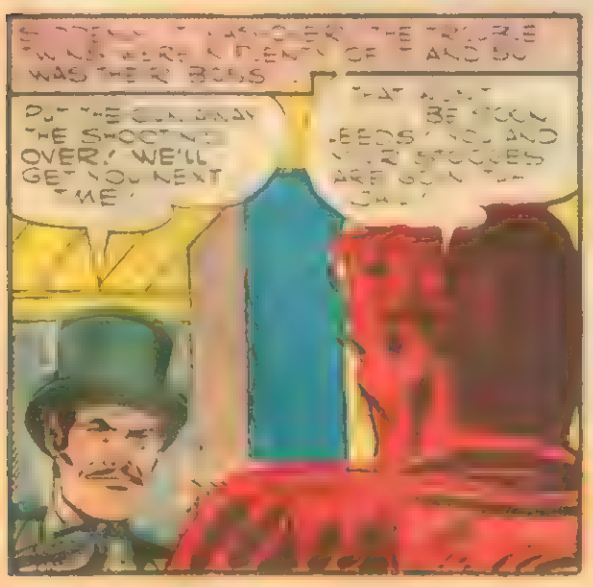
MASKED RAIDER

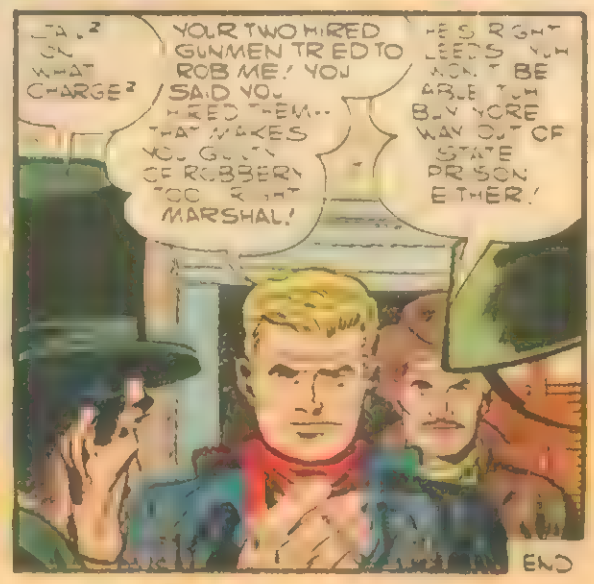
YOU'RE A HARD MAN TO CATCH BONNEY! YUH RUN LIKE A SCARED RAT. WILL HE RUN THIS TIME, FLASH?
NOT WITH BULLETS IN HIM CASH! HE WILL NOT RUN THIS TIME!
TAKE THE MONEY BONNEY YOU WIN! YOU WILL NOT LIVE TO SPEND IT AMIGO!
LOOK--WHY DON'T YOU AND THAT TOUGH BROTHER OF YOURS MEET ME OUTSIDE OF TOWN SOMEWHERE?
I'LL FIGHT--BUT LET'S DO IT WHERE NO ONE ELSE WILL GET HURT! COME ON!
HOLD IT, SENOR! WE WILL PICK THE TIME!
LOOK SEE WHAT A FRIEND HE IS! HE LETS ME TAKE HIS MONEY, YOU TAKE SOME TOO SAM
YOU HIRED 'EM TO DO THIS DON'T YOU NEEDS?
ANSWER ME NEEDS! THEY'RE WORKIN' FOR YOU AREN'T THEY?
SURE. IT'S WORTH EVERY NICKEL TOO. WATCH 'N YOU CRAWL.
BUT EXPLODED THEN BOTH BROTHERS WERE WAITING, BUT EVEN THEIR GUN MASTERY WASN'T FAST ENOUGH...
YUH WANT TROUBLE, I'LL GIVE YUH TROUBLE!

MASKED RAIDER

FLASH BORIOS HAD HIS GUN BLAZING TOO... BUT BILL BONNEY WAS MOVING FAST..




...ER THE FIGURE ...NTIFICATION OF ... AND DU... WAS THEIR BOSS.
BUT THE GUN-BRAWL THE SHOOTIN' OVER! WE'LL GET YOU NEXT TIME!
THAT ALL MAY BE YOU LEEDS! YOU AND YOUR SCHEMES ARE GOIN' TO JAIL!


JAIL? ON WHAT CHARGE?
YOUR TWO HIRED GUNMEN TRIED TO ROB ME! YOU SAID YOU HIRED THEM.. THAT MAKES YOU GUILTY OF ROBBERY TOO RIGHT MARSHAL!
HE'S RIGHT LEEDS YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO BUY MORE WAY OUT OF STATE PRISON EITHER!
END

GOPHER FACE

FAST EATERS!

AS M.STER WATTS, THE ER! MUH BOSS DOESN'T HIM, BUT HE HAS TUH PRETEND HE DOES TUH KEEP ON THE GOOD SIDE OF HIM
BANK

HEY GOPHERFACE WAIT A SECOND
WHERE'S THE FIRE

YORE BOSS INVITED ME TUH COME TUH DINNER TODAY, BUT HE DIDN'T SAY WHAT TIME HE EXPECTED ME!

BANK

I HEARD MUH BOSS SAY...

...HE WUZ ANXIOUS TO GET IT OVER WITH AS FAST AS POSSIBLE!
!!!

A DAY AT OUR RANCH

I have to turn back the clock of my life many years to take you as my guest to the ranch my father once owned. You can thus spend with us one day at the Bar-H Ranch. During days, or perhaps weeks, of the busy season when most of the men are absent on the round-ups, the door of the home ranch may be closed. It may be closed but not locked, for on the frontier locks and bars were unknown. The ways of the South always flavored the life of the cattle country, whether in Texas or Wyoming, far more than the ways of the North and East.

There is no lock upon the door of our ranch house, whether it be empty or occupied. It constitutes the only home the cowboy has. Here he returns from the more active duties of the round-up or the drive and takes up the less exacting routine of everyday ranch life. The cowboy is a horseman and nothing more. Hence he has little inclination for any work that can not be done in the saddle.

Thus, if the cowboy feels obliged to go out for wood, he goes out on horseback. His idea of the correct way to get a log of wood to camp is to drag it at the end of his lariat. If a wagon is mired down in the quicksands of a soft crossing, the cowboy who comes to the aid of the driver does not dismount. He makes fast his rope to some holding place on the wagon and trusts to his saddle girths for the rest. The cowboy has a mild contempt for all walking and driving men. In his own line of work he can be a miracle of tireless energy.

However, the day of ordinary ranch life is not of great activity nor of haste. The chores which the cowpuncher considers within his province are very few and simple. If in the winter some horses are kept up under feed in the ranch stables, he may feed his own horse, but no other man's. The day at the ranch begins early, for by daybreak the men have slept enough. There is little to induce them to stay up late at night. As a rule, the cowboys are rather silent men. However, not so silent as the melancholy sheep herders. A cowboy who is "mouthy" is not usually in high repute at a cow camp.

The cook, is of course, the first one up about the place. After work, if it happens to be cold, the first work is attending the riding horses kept in the stables. Behind each horse in the stable is a long wooden peg upon which hang the bridle and saddle. It is the rule never to touch the rope, quirt, or other parts of another cowboy's outfit. Of course, one man will not want to use another's saddle.

"I wouldn't ride a mile in that thing o' yourn for the best heifer that runs the range," says one cowboy, referring contemptuously to the prized saddle of another.

"I'd plum have a misery if I had to ride yourn," is the reply.

Part or all of the horse herd will not be kept up at the ranch house, but it will be watched so that their whereabouts will be known. A cowboy may be sent out in the morning to bring in one horse herd. Then follows one of the most picturesque events of the day.

The bunch of horses comes up on a gallop, urged by the cowboy behind them. All sorts of horses are in the collection. All of them rough of coat and hard of form. And not one of them has a pleasant expression as he turns into the ranch corral, with his ears drooping and his eyes rolling about in search of trouble. Inside the corral each horse runs about and dodges behind his fellows when he fancies himself wanted. He is doing his best to escape when he falls into meek quiet as he feels the circle of rope. The cowboy leads him out and throws the heavy saddle on his back.

The horse stands there the picture of forlornness and despair, apparently upon his very last legs and quiet unfit for travel. The cowboy pays no attention to all of this but proceeds to cinch up the saddle. As he begins this the horse heaves a deep long breath which converts him temporarily into something of the figure of a balloon. The cowboy knows what this means, and putting his foot against the side of the horse, he gives a quick, strong pull on the girth, which causes the horse to grunt in a grieved way and to lessen his size abruptly.

The hind cinch is not drawn tight for in regard to that, the cow horse feels that it has certain rights to breathing room which even the cowboy is bound to respect. In any case, the pony may pitch a little when the cowboy swings into the saddle. Especially if it has not been ridden for some time.

As Jim, our cowboy and one whom I liked

very much when I was a youngster on the ranch, rides along on his day's work, he sees many things which a tenderfoot would not notice. He notes where a deer has crossed the ranch road. Where the wolves have been playing in the sand. Where the bob cat has walked along the muddy bank. He sees the track of the horse which crossed and can tell whether or not it is a fresh track. Perhaps it is part of his day's work to look up some of the ranch horses which have strayed away.

The range in summer time is a breezy and not unpleasant place to be in spite of the brilliant sun. Always the eyes of the cowboy roams over the expanse ahead. He can tell farther than the tenderfoot what is going on out on the horizon. He knows what is this distant horseman crossing the flat ahead. If it is a cowboy, he knows him because he rides straight up in his stirrups with no crooking-back of the leg. If it is an Indian, he will be sitting hunched up, with his stirrups very short and his leg bent back under the horse's belly, riding with the calf of his leg rather than with the thigh or knee.

If Jim does not think that a certain horseman should be there at this part of the range, he may stop and unsling the field glasses which he sometimes carries with him as an aid in his work. He sees a little bunch of young cows running up out of a draw and suspects that the gray wolves may have pulled down a calf there. He sees the coyotes, reddish in the warm sun, sneaking off across the plain. He notes the low sweep of a big eagle, and watches a long time the actions of a bunch of antelopes.

As he rides along the range, the cowboy keeps an eye out along the watering places to note any animal that may have become mired down. When he sees a big steer thus entrapped, Jim rides up to the edge of the boggy place and sets about pulling out the animal.

Jim does not love a rattlesnake nor does his horse. He takes a shot or so at the snake with his six-shooter not heeding the objections of the pony to the gun. A cow horse has to get used to a great many strange things. Or Jim may dismount and kill the snake with his quirt, rather a short-ranked weapon for such a case.

Some day as the cowboy is riding his rounds about the range, his quick eye may note out on the horizon a faint cloud which has not the appearance of a dust trail. This he regards intently, stopping his pony and looking steadfastly toward the spot. The little cloud does not pass away or grow less, but it widens and rises and all at once fans out on the wind taking on the unmistakably blue of smoke. This is fire!

If the grass be full and high, as it is on some parts of the cattle country, and if the wind be strong and in the right direction, the prairie fire will soon be a terrible thing. Everything is in danger. The entire profit of the season will be destroyed as well as all the possibilities for next year. The cowboy rides back at full speed and gives the alarm. The cowboys all know what to do in such a case. Some of the men look to the buildings, carefully back-burning a broad strip around them, so that the full sweep of the fire will not have to be met there.

Riding along the edge of the line of the flame, two cowboys drag at the ends of their ropes a wet green hide, a pile of wet blankets, or anything that will serve to drag down and beat out the flame which must be stopped. Sometimes help can be obtained in time from a neighboring ranch. The danger is common and hence all will help.

Jim taught me to ride, to read "trail," and to shoot. Those boyhood days on the ranch were wonderful. The traveller was always welcomed. News came to us by letter, books, magazines, old newspapers, and even by "gossip." In the old days, deer, antelope, wild turkey, and sometimes smaller game often appeared on the menu of the ranch.

There are now oil wells where the cattle once ranged freely on the ranch. In place of the horses are jeeps and automobiles. Even the airplane is being used by some of the ranchers to keep an eye on their property. The radio and television have moved the East right into the West.

But as long as there is the thirst for adventure, then the Western Ranch will exist. The cowboy will always be on hand to meet any situation even when the first spaceship from Mars lands on the Bar-H Ranch!

— THE END —

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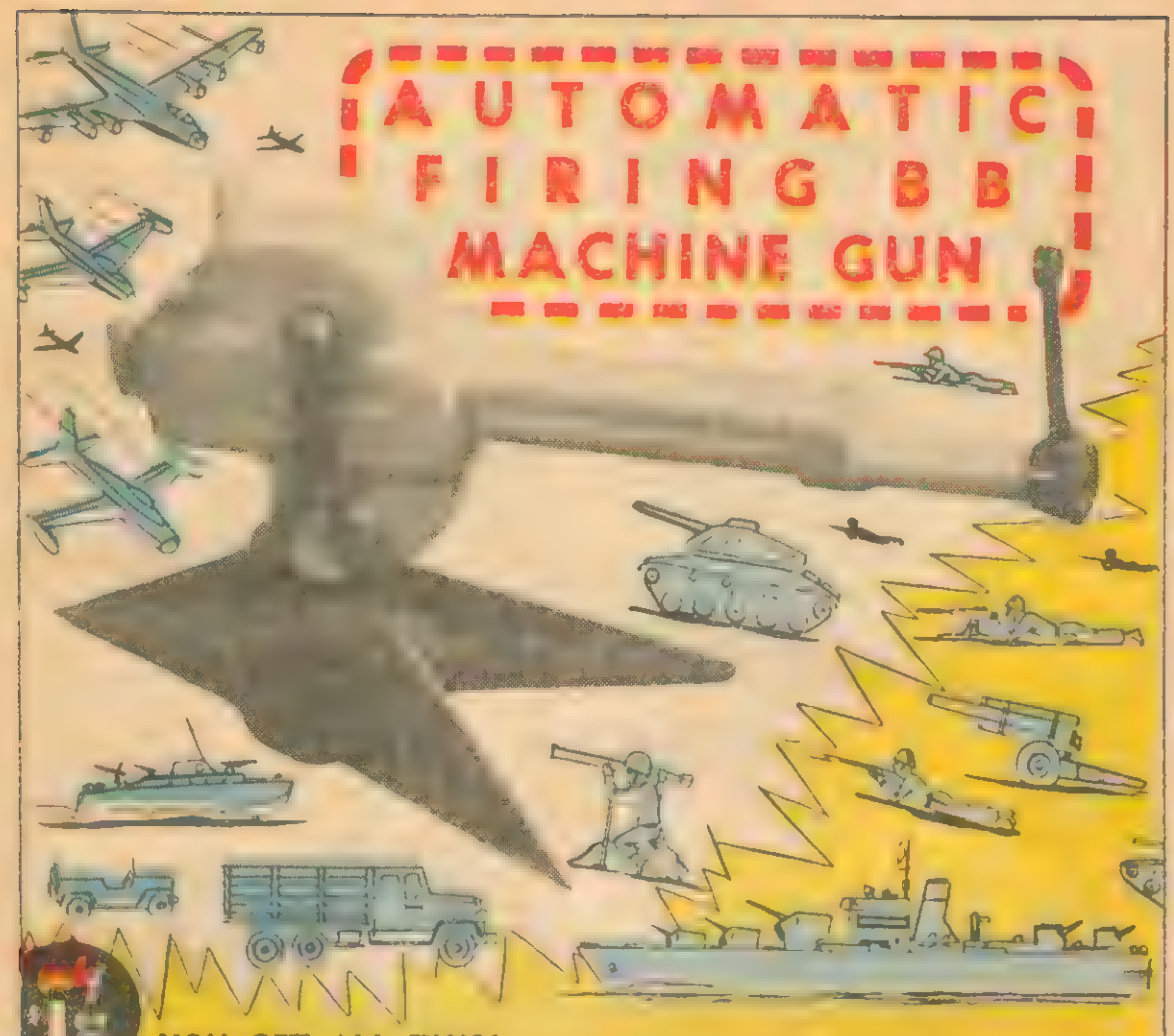

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NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

MASKED RAIDER

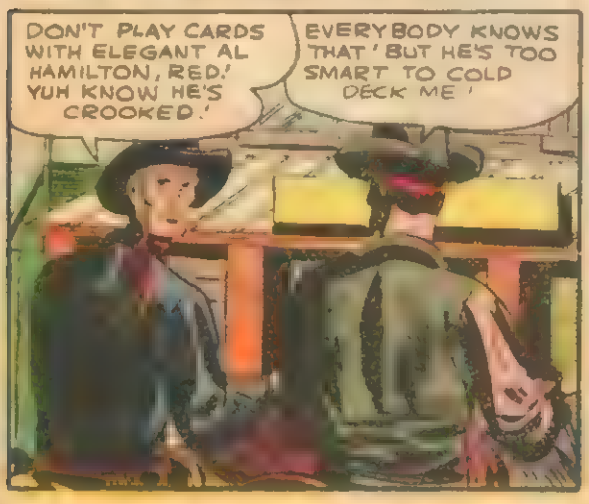
BILLY THE KID

IN THE FIFTH ACE

ELEGANT AL HAMILTON DIDN'T BELIEVE IN GIVING CHUMPS AN EVEN BREAK -- WHETHER THE STAKES WERE PENNIES, DOLLARS, OR LIVES! SO WHEN BILLY THE KID SAW HIS FOUR ACES, HE KNEW HAMILTON WOULD HAVE AT LEAST ONE MORE UP HIS SLEEVE!

YOU CHEATED ME THE WAY YOU CHEATED MY PAL, HAMILTON!
THAT'S RIGHT, SONNY! AND YOU'RE GOING TO WIND UP LIKE HE DID, FLAT ON HIS BACK! GET HIM, BOYS!
S1845

YOUNG BILL BONNEY TRIED TO TALK RED MAGRUE OUT OF GAMBLING WITH HAMILTON -- BUT RED HAD CONFIDENCE HE'D WIN!



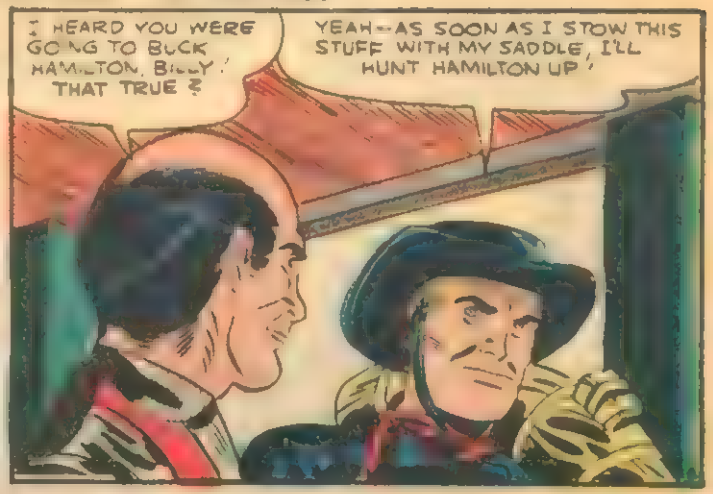
MASKED RAIDER

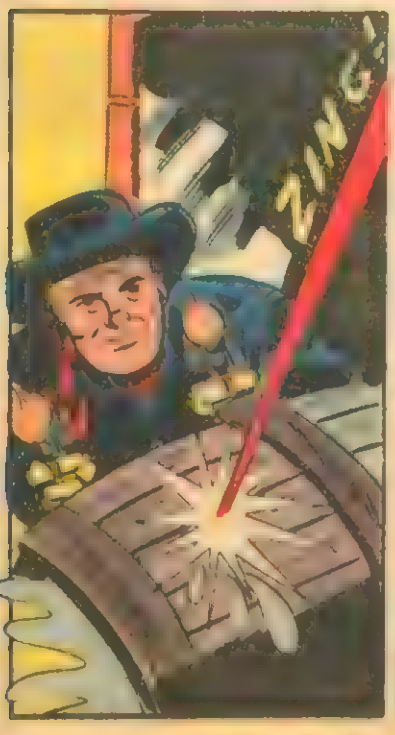
HE HAD TO ADMIRE HAMILTON WHEN HE DEALT! THE GAMBLER'S DEFT FINGERS COULD DO ANYTHING WITH A DECK---!!
WHAT WILL IT BE, MAGRUE? TABLE STAKES LIKE THE LAST TIME?
QUIT NOW, RED! THIS TINHORN WON'T LOSE ANY MORE POTS! HE LET YOU HAVE YOUR FUN!
I'M NOT FOOL ENOUGH TO TRY TO MATCH YOUR GUNSPEED, BONNEY! PLEASE LEAVE THE TABLE! YOU'RE NOT PLAYING!
I'LL LEAVE, BUT I WON'T GO FAR! REMEMBER, RED'S MY FRIEND!
HE'S A GROWN MAN! LET HIM PLAY HIS OWN CARDS AND FIGHT HIS OWN FIGHTS!
RED WAS AS FAST AS THE AVERAGE COWHAND WITH HIS COLT-- BUT AL WASN'T WORRIED ABOUT HIM!! HE DELIBERATELY LET THE REDHEAD SEE HIM CHEAT ON THE LAST DEAL---
HOLD IT, HAMILTON! I SAW THAT!
BETTER FORGET WHAT YOU SAW, RED!
YUH HAD A SLEEVE -- UNGH!!
IT'S SMALL BUT IT THROWS A FIFTY CALIBER SLUG, COWBOY!
DON'T TRY ANY-THING, BONNEY! RED PULLED FIRST!
I SAW IT, HAMILTON! THAT'S A PRETTY SLICK SPRINGLOAD HOLSTER YUH CARRY UP YOUR SLEEVE! BUT IT WON'T WORK IF YUH TRY IT ON ME!

MASKED RAIDER

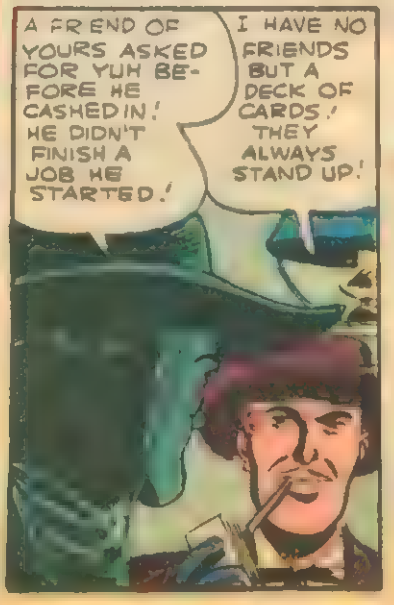
AL HAMILTON KNEW BILLY THE KID WOULDN'T FORGET THE INCIDENT AND HE HAD NO INTENTION OF FACING HIM IN A FAIR FIGHT!

THERE HE IS! IT'S WORTH A THOUSAND TO ME IF HE'S FIXED SO I NEVER HAVE TO DEAL CARDS TO HIM! NOT HERE, YOU FOOL!
I'LL FOLLOW HIM AND PICK A NICE SPOT! A THOUSAND SOUNDS GOOD!

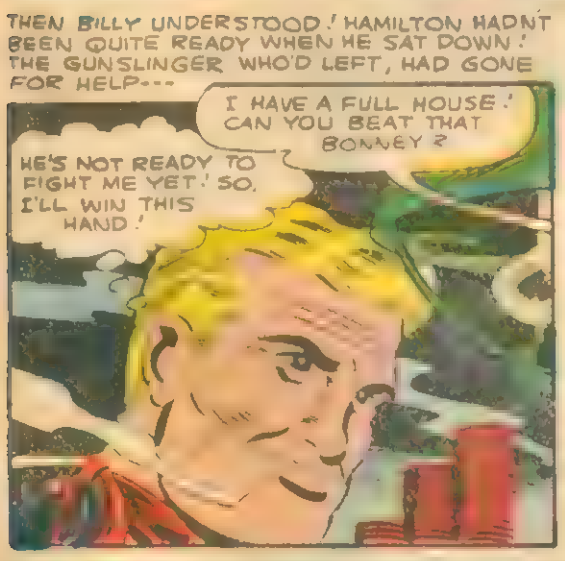

I HEARD YOU WERE GOING TO BUCK HAMILTON, BILLY! THAT TRUE?
YEAH—AS SOON AS I STOW THIS STUFF WITH MY SADDLE, I'LL HUNT HAMILTON UP!



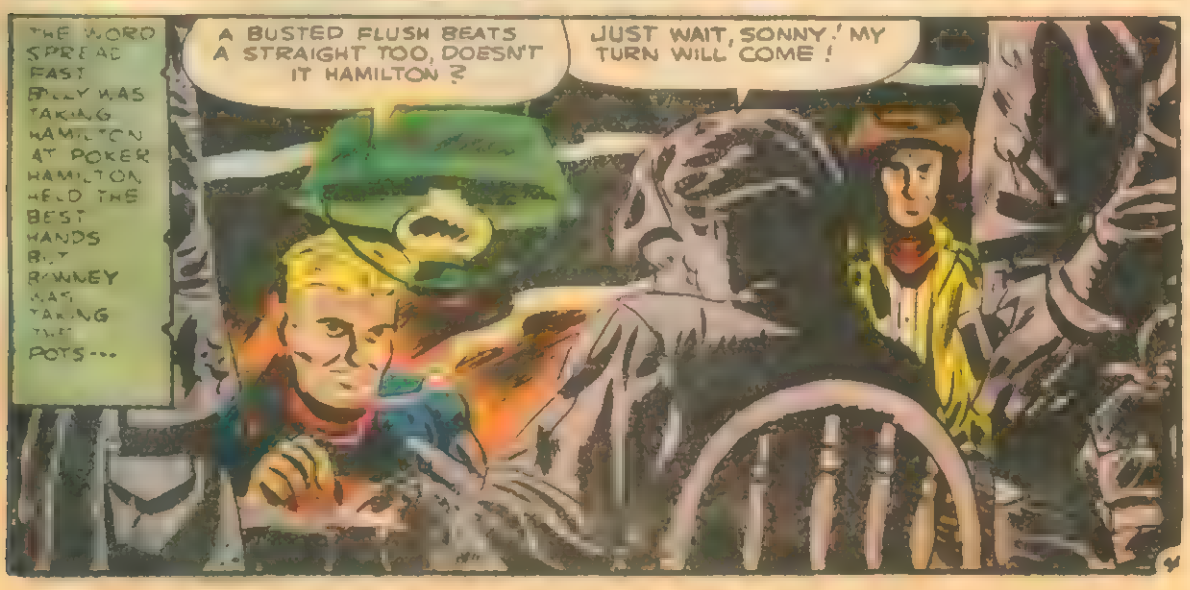
THE LIVERY STABLE OPERATOR HAD SEEN IT ALL — HIS TESTIMONY CLEARED BILLY BUT IT WAS DARK WHEN HE GOT TO THE RED DOG CAFE'


A FRIEND OF YOURS ASKED FOR YUH BEFORE HE CASHED IN! HE DIDN'T FINISH A JOB HE STARTED!
I HAVE NO FRIENDS BUT A DECK OF CARDS! THEY ALWAYS STAND UP!

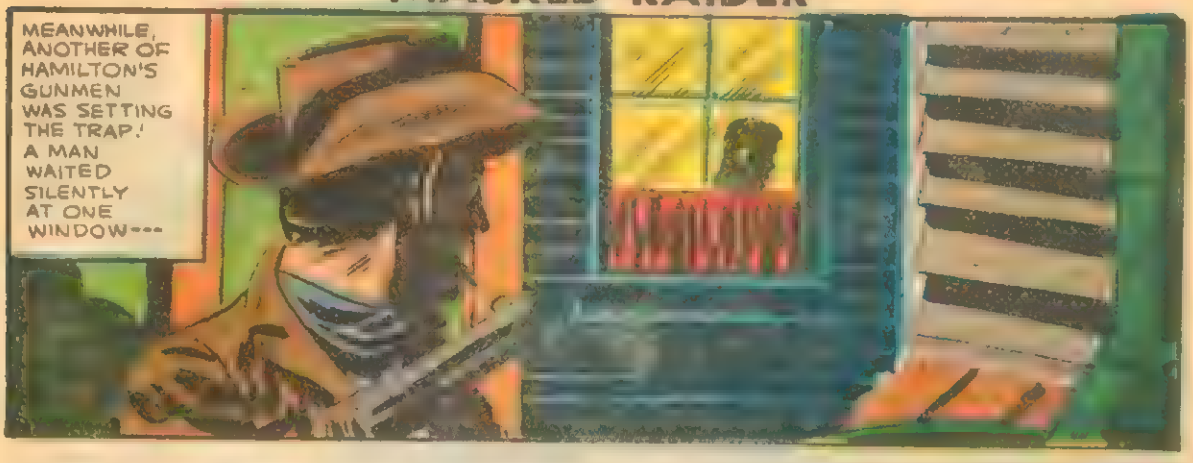
MASKED RAIDER


THEN BILLY UNDERSTOOD! HAMILTON HADN'T BEEN QUITE READY WHEN HE SAT DOWN! THE GUNSLINGER WHO'D LEFT, HAD GONE FOR HELP---
I HAVE A FULL HOUSE! CAN YOU BEAT THAT BONNEY?
HE'S NOT READY TO FIGHT ME YET! SO, I'LL WIN THIS HAND!

YEAH, I BEAT IT! I'VE GOT FOUR QUEENS! COUNT THEM! YOU SEE FOUR, DON'T YOU? SURE YOU DO!
WHAT'RE YOU TRYING TO PULL? YOU ONLY HAVE -- OKAY, BONNEY, YOU WIN


THE WORD SPREAD FAST BILLY WAS TAKING HAMILTON AT POKER HAMILTON HELD THE BEST HANDS BUT BONNEY WAS TAKING THE POTS---
A BUSTED FLUSH BEATS A STRAIGHT TOO, DOESN'T IT HAMILTON?
JUST WAIT, SONNY! MY TURN WILL COME!

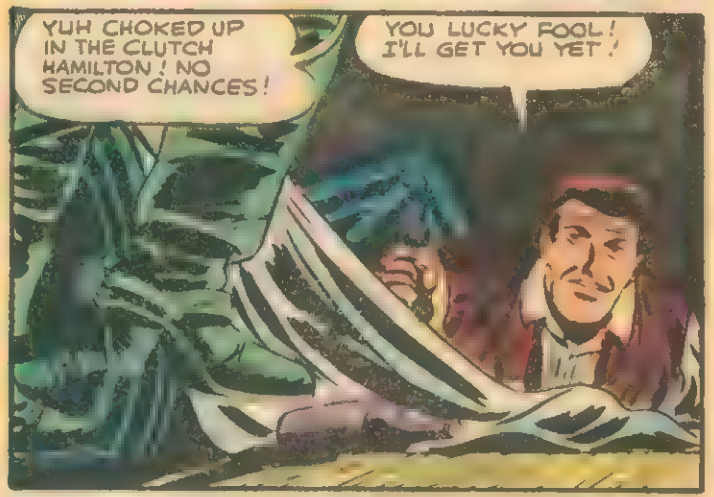
MASKED RAIDER



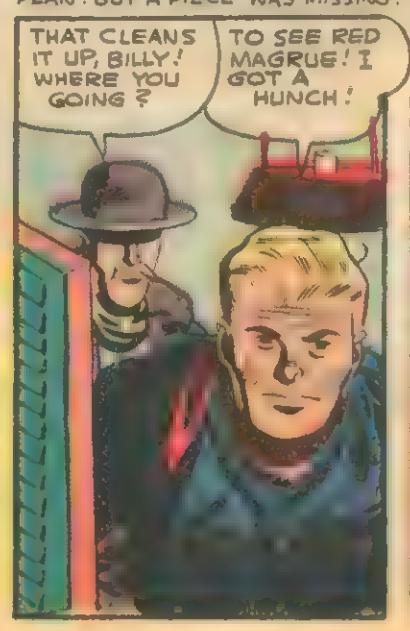
I KNOW YOUR TYPE AL! THIS JAILBIRD NEXT TUH ME HAS A GUN IN HIS POCKET PRIMED FOR ME 'AND YOU PROBABLY GOT A HIRED GUN ON THE PORCH OUTSIDE! AM I RIGHT?

MASKED RAIDER

BILLY THE KID INSTINCTIVELY MADE THE RIGHT MOVE FIRST! HE TURNED, GUN BLAZING AS HIS COLT LINED UP WITH THE WINDOW----



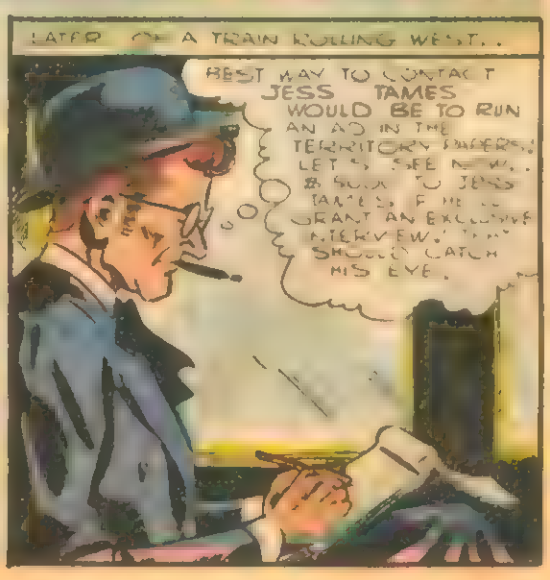
THE WOUNDED MAN AT THE BAR AND THE OTHER AT THE WINDOW READILY ADMITTED HAMILTON'S PLAN! BUT A PIECE WAS MISSING!



I WATCHED THEM SETTIN' UP THE AMBUSH AND FIGURED THIS WOULD BE A GOOD SPOT! I SNUCK AROUND AND FOUND HIM HERE!
NICE GOING, RED! I GOT ALL YOUR MONEY BACK AND A BONUS FOR OUR TROUBLE!
THE END

Jess Tames
in SCOOP
EW YORK STAR
ED UP BY POSSE!
WILSON GANG CAPTURED!!
LAWRENCE KANS. APRIL 13, 1871
ACTING ON AN ANONYMOUS TIP SHERIFF KINCAID, AND HIS POSSE CAPTURED
NOTORIOUS WILSON GANG THAT HAD BEEN TERRORIZING THE TERRITOR

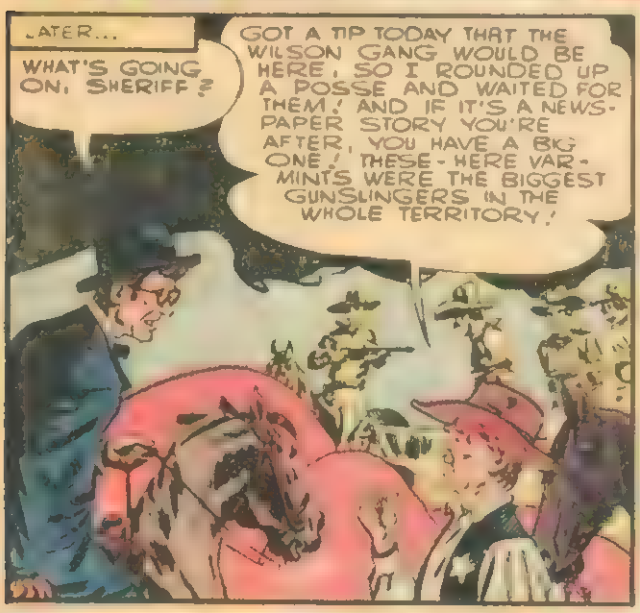
OWLHOOTS GOT PULLED IN SO EASY? WELL, I'LL BE IN MY NEWSPAPER OFFICE BACK EAST...
JESS TAMES, THE MOST
AND I'M SENDING
VIEW WITH HIM! IT'LL BE THE SCOOP OF THE YEAR!

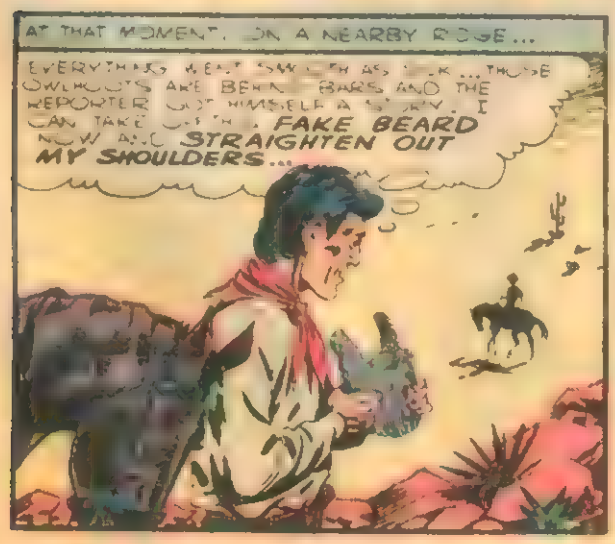

LATER ON A TRAIN ROLLING WEST..
BEST WAY TO CONTACT JESS TAMES WOULD BE TO RUN AN AD IN THE TERRITORY PAPERS. LET'S SEE NOW.. "JESS TAMES, I'D LIKE TO GRANT AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW." THAT SHOULD CATCH HIS EYE.

MASKED RAIDER

WHEN JESS SAW THE NO
HMMM... THAT NEWS-PAPERMAN MUST WANT TO SEE ME REAL BAD! MAYBE I...
THE NEXT DAY, IN THE TOWN NO'EL...
YOU THE WRITIN' MAN FROM BACK EAST THAT'S ACHIN' TO PALAVER WITH JESS JAMES? WELL, JESS SENT ME TO FIX A MEETIN' WITH YOU!
NOW, WE HAVE TO BE MIGHTY CARE-FUL -- CAN'T TELL A SOUL! JESS 'S BEEN RIDIN' HERD ON THE OWL-HOOTS IN THESE PARTS AN' HANKERIN' TO EVEN THINGS UP! ALL THEY'D NEED TO KNOW IS THAT HE'LL BE MEETIN' YOU IN INJUN HEAD RAVINE AFTER SUNDOWN, AN' THEY'D ALL COME GALLOPIN WITH CLEARED HOLSTERS!
WASN'T TWO MINUTES AFTER HE'D LEFT THE REPORTER, THAT THE BEARDED GALOOT MOSIED INTO THE SILVER SLIPPER SALOON...
YES SIREE -- THOSE OWLHOOTS WOULD BE MIGHTY GLAD TO SIT IN ON THAT MEETIN' AT THE RAVINE TONIGHT!
AND WASN'T MORE THAN TWO MINUTES AFTER THAT, THAT HIS TONGUE WAS FLAPPING FASTER THAN A BANDANA IN A WIND STORM...
SHHH... DON'T TELL ANYBODY BUT YEUS TAMES IS HAVIN' A MEETIN' TONIGHT IN THAT REPORTER A' INJUN HEAD RAVINE! AN' HE'LL BE THERE IN A HEE LYES! HIS WORD HE NEVER FAILS TO SHOW IT!
WHEN THE OWLHOOT BOSS HEARD...
THIS IS OUR CHANCE MEN. WITH JESS JAMES OUT OF THE WAY WE'LL BE ABLE TO RUN THE TERR'TORY LIKE WE WANT TO! COME ON, WE'RE HEADIN FOR INJUN HEAD RAVINE!

MASKED RAIDER


LATER...
WHAT'S GOING ON, SHERIFF?
GOT A TIP TODAY THAT THE WILSON GANG WOULD BE HERE; SO I ROUNDED UP A POSSE AND WAITED FOR THEM! AND IF IT'S A NEWSPAPER STORY YOU'RE AFTER, YOU HAVE A BIG ONE! THESE-HERE VARMINTS WERE THE BIGGEST GUNSLINGERS IN THE WHOLE TERRITORY!


AT THAT MOMENT, ON A NEARBY RIDGE...
EVERYTHING'S NEAT SWEET AS SILK... THOSE OWLHOOTS ARE BEHIND BARS AND THE REPORTER GOT HIMSELF A STORY. I CAN TAKE OFF THIS FAKE BEARD NOW AND STRAIGHTEN OUT MY SHOULDERS...

THAT'S THE WHOLE STORY, FOLKS! AND NOW THAT IT WAS ENDED, JESS TAMES, WHO'D BEEN BUSTIN' AS THE OLD DESERT RAT, AND WHO'D BEEN THE ONE TO AVENGE THE
THE END

...MOUNTED UP AND RODE BACK TO HIS HIDEOUT IN THE HILLS...!

HAPPY HOMER
HEY, WOT 'SA MATTER SLIM? YOU LOOKS LIKE YOU LOST YOUR LAST FRIEND!
JUST AS BAD HAPPY, AH LOST MA' BILLFOLD WIF' ALL MA' MONEY IN IT, AN' AH IS AFRAID WHOEVER FINDS IT WILL KEEP IT!
SHUCKS THET WOULDN'T BOTHER ME, NOW IF SOMEBODY WUS TA' FIND MA' BILLFOLD THEY IS WELCOME TO KEEP IT, IT WOULD BE OKAY WIF' ME!
YOU'RE CRAZY! YOU MEAN IF SOMEONE FOUND YOUR BILLFOLD AN' KEPT IT, YOU WOULDN'T CARE?!
NOT A BIT!..
--IT WORE OUT AN' AH THREW IT AWAY THREE MONTHS AGO!

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...and I'll PROVE I Can Make You Over From Head to Foot!

IN ONLY 15 MINUTES A DAY

YES, it's yours for the asking—the kind of body YOU want! Just tell me WHERE you need it—and I'll add SOLID INCHES of powerful new muscle—make your entire body over into the kind of power house that women admire and respect.

Do you want broader shoulders — pounds off your waist and hips — more powerful arms — handsome legs — a mid-section with solid-as-steel muscle? Just check what you want right in the coupon below. I'll PROVE you can get it in just 15 minutes a day—right in the privacy of your room.

I don't care if you are 15 or 50—skinny or fat. My methods are famous for working FAST—getting RESULTS on skinny run-down bodies—turning flabby skin and bones into SOLID MUSCLE!

WHAT'S MY SECRET?

"DYNAMIC TENSION"! That's the ticket! The identical natural method that I myself developed to change my body from the scrawny weakling I was at 17 to my present superman physique! Thousands of fellows are becoming marvelous physical specimens—my way. I give you no gadgets or contraptions. You simply use the *dormant* muscle-power in your own God-given body—watch it increase and multiply double-quick into real solid LIVE MUSCLE.

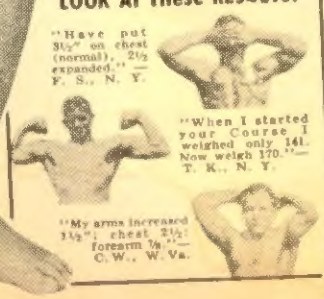
My method—*"Dynamic Tension"* is so easy! Spend only 15 minutes a day in your own home. From the very start you'll be using my method of *"Dynamic Tension"* almost unconsciously every minute of the day—to BUILD MUSCLE and VITALITY. And *you'll* be using the method which many great athletes use for keeping in condition for boxing, wrestling, basebe!', football, tennis and every other sport.

FREE My Valuable Illustrated 32-Page Book. NOT $1.00 —NOT 10c—but FREE!

Send now for my 32-page book, describing my famous method—packed with photographs and valuable advice. Tells how YOU can develop big powerful muscles: excel in athletics; develop a magnetic personality—and more. Shows what *"Dynamic Tension"* has done for others—what it can do for YOU!

This book is a real prize, yet I'll send you a copy absolutely FREE. Rush coupon to me personally: **CHARLES ATLAS, Dept. 325-D 115 E. 23rd Street, New York 10, N. Y.**

LOOK At These RESULTS:



"Have put 3½" on chest (normal), 2½ expanded."—F. S., N. Y.

"When I started your Course I weighed only 141. Now weigh 170."—T. K., N. Y.

"My arms increased 3½"; chest 2½"; forearm ⅜."—C. W., W. Va.

CHARLES ATLAS, Dept. 325-D
115 East 23rd Street, New York 10, N. Y.

Dear Charles Atlas: Here's the kind of Body I Want:

(Check as many as you li...

- ☐ More Weight—Solid—in The Right Places
- ☐ Broader Chest, Shoulders
- ☐ Powerful Arms, Legs, Grip
- ☐ Slimmer Waist, Hips
- ☐ Better Sleep, More Energy

Send me absolutely FREE a copy of your famous book showing how "Dynamic Tension" can make me a new man—32 pages, crammed with photographs, answers to vital questions, and valuable advice. No obligation.

Name..... Age.....
(Please Print Plainly)

Address.....

City..... State.....

☐ If under 14 years of age check for Booklet A

FLASH CAMERA
PORTABLE PHONOGRAPH
ELECTRIC TRAIN
ALL KINDS OF HOUSEWARES
POPUP TOASTER
ELECTRONIC TWO-WAY WALKIE-TALKIE
DAVY CROCKETT TOYS & EQUIPMENT
BOYS-GIRLS-MEN-WOMEN-
Boy and Girl Scouts - Camp Fire Girls - News Boys!
RADIO
INDIAN MOCCASIN SET
PRIZES GIVEN
MAKE MONEY TOO!
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
BOY'S AND GIRL'S WATCHES
ROY ROGERS OR DALE EVANS LAMP
ARCHERY SET
GABBY HAYES FISHING KIT
GIRLS OVERNIGHT CASE
We will send you the wonderful prizes pictured on this page... or dozens of others, such as jewelry, radium dial wrist watches, tableware, tools, air-rifles, U-Make-It kits, leather kits, sewing kits, electric clocks, pressure cookers, scout equipment, model airplanes, movie machines, record players, and many others... all WITHOUT ONE PENNY OF COST. You don't risk or invest a cent—we send you everything you need ON TRUST. Here's how easy it is: Merely show your friends and neighbors inspiring, beautiful Religious Wall Motto plaques. Many buy six or even more to hang in every room. An amazing value, only 35c... sell on sight. You can make big cash commissions or get many exciting prizes for selling just one set of 24 Mottos. Other prizes for selling 2 sets or more. Write today for Big Prize catalog sent to you FREE.
SEND NO MONEY—We Trust You!
SPORTS EQUIPMENT
TABLE TENNIS SET
GAS MOTOR FOR YOUR BICYCLE
SCOUTING EQUIPMENT
1 TUBE RADIO SET
ROLLER SKATES
BROWNIE MOVIE CAMERA PROJECTOR SCREEN
WALKING DOLL
$1,000.00 IN EXTRA PRIZES!
You can get most prizes on this page by selling just one set of 24 Religious Mottos. In addition, I offer these wonderful BIG prizes! I'll tell you how you may win! All details sent free along with 24 Mottos I send you on credit
JET PLANE WITH GAS ENGINE
WOODBURNING SET
COCKER SPANIEL
LIVE WESTERN-COWBOY HORSE
BOY'S OR GIRL'S BICYCLE
21 INCH TV SET
TYPEWRITER
CHEMISTRY SET
Here's How You Get Your Prizes
Rush your name and address on coupon and we ship AT ONCE PREPAID your first set of 24 Mottos ON TRUST. When you have sold the 24 Mottos, send the $x.40 you have collected and you can secure your choice of many wonderful prizes. If you prefer to EARN MONEY, send $6.00 and keep $2.40. Hurry, send TODAY for 24 Mottos ON TRUST and big PRIZE CATALOG FREE
FREE Membership in FUNman's Fun Club
EXTRA! Sell mottos and send payment within 15 days, and I'll give you free a year's Membership in the FUNman's Fun Club. Membership card, certificate, secret code, giant packet of fun materials all yours—plus extra surprises!
The FUNman, Dept. C-109, 5726 N. Broadway, Chicago 40, Ill. FREE BIG PRIZE CATALOG
Please rush to me on 15 days credit 24 Religious Wall Mottos, to sell at 35c each. Also include big Prize Catalog FREE. I will remit amount required as explained in BIG PRIZE CATALOG within 30 days and select the prize I want or keep a cash commission as explained. INCLUDE DETAILS OF HOW I MAY WIN THE EXTRA BIG PRIZES
Name
Street or R.F.D.
Town Zone State
SEND NO MONEY—We Trust You!
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